

PRESS RELEASE

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT PRESENTATION ON SEPTEMBER 15 AT NOON ALABAMA'S U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICES PRESENTED BY STEVEN P. BROWN

Montgomery, AL (8/30/16) - Food for Thought continues another year of fascinating and informative lunchtime lectures on the rich history of Alabama at the **Alabama Department of Archives and History** on **Thursday, September 15 at 12:00 pm.** Steven P. Brown will present *Alabama's U.S. Supreme Court Justices*.

Once well-known throughout the nation, the names of U.S. Supreme Court Justices appointed from Alabama have become obscured by time. While the names of John McKinley (served from 1838 to 1852), John Archibald Campbell (served from 1852 to 1861) and Hugo Black (served from 1937 to 1971) are less recognizable, even to Alabamians, each justice had a profound influence on the Court and the interpretation of our nation's laws. This month, Auburn University Professor Steven P. Brown will discuss the careers of these three Alabama justices and explore their legacies that continue to permeate America's legal system today.

Steven P. Brown is a professor of political science at Auburn University where he has taught since 1998. He received a bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University and a master's degree and doctorate from the University of Virginia. Brown's first book, *Trumping Religion: The New Christian Right, The Free Speech Clause, and the Courts* received the National Communication Association's Franklyn S. Haiman Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Freedom of Expression. He is also the author of *John McKinley and the Antebellum Supreme Court: Circuit Riding in the Old Southwest.* In 2006, Brown was the recipient of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars' faculty of the year award. In addition to his university responsibilities, Brown has also taught courses on the American presidency in the Elderhostel program at Auburn, constitutional law to members of Auburn University's Osher Life Long Learning Institute, and election law to state and local elections officials as part of the National Election Center's continuing education program.

Food for Thought is made possible by the Friends of the Alabama Archives and a grant from the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The public is invited to bring a brown bag lunch. Complimentary beverages are provided. **Admission to Food for Thought is always FREE.**

The Alabama Department of Archives and History is located in downtown Montgomery, directly across the street from the State Capitol. It is the state's government records repository, special collections library and research facility, and is home to the Museum of Alabama, the state history museum. The Archives and Museum are open Monday through Saturday, 8:30 to 4:30. To learn more, visit www.archives.alabama.gov or call (334) 242-4364.